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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/500,245	06/25/2004	Etsumori Harada	0230-0217PUS1	8920
2292 7590 05/01/2007 BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			EXAMINER HEARD, THOMAS SWEENEY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1654	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		05/01/2007	ELECTRONIC	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Notice of this Office communication was sent electronically on the above-indicated "Notification Date" and has a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 MONTHS from 05/01/2007.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/500,245

Applicant(s)

HARADA ET AL.

Examiner

Thomas S. Heard

Art Unit

1654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15 and 17-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8-13, 15, 17-26 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The Applicants Amendments to the claims received on 3/7/2007 is acknowledged. The text of those sections of Title 35 U.S. Code not included in the action can be found in the prior office action. Rejections or objections not addressed in this office action with respect to the previous office action mailed 11/7/2006 are hereby withdrawn.

Claims 1-13, 15, 17, 18-26 are pending. Applicants have amended claims 4, 7, 9-13, and 15 to recite a method rather than a composition; therefore these claims are no longer part of the Elected Group I, which is a composition. Therefore claims 8-13 and 15 are withdrawn along with claims 17-26 as being drawn to non-elected subject matter. Applicants have cancelled claims 14 and 16. Claims 1-7 are currently examined on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tomita, M. et al, US Patent 5,543,392.

Applicant's arguments have been carefully considered but are not deemed persuasive. Applicants traverse the rejection over the preamble not have any

Art Unit: 1654

patentable weight in the invention, and that it must be made on a case-by-case bases.

The claims are to a composition. Applicant is asked to review *In re Hack*, 245 F.2d 246, 248, 114 USPQ 161, 163 (CCPA 1957). "When the claim recites using an old composition or structure and the "use" is directed to a result or property of that composition or structure, then the claim is anticipated" (MPEP 2100 pp.2113). M.P.E.P. § 2112 reads, "The claiming of a new use, new function or unknown property which is inherently present in the prior art does not necessarily make the claim patentable."

Something that is old does not become patentable upon the discovery of a new property, use, or application. Lactoferrin is known in the art and a new use does not make lactoferrin new.

As stated previously, Tomita et al discloses a composition having lactoferrin as an ingredient within the ranges claimed, see Example 5:

Example 5 (preparation of powdery drug)

Lactoferrin (made by Oleofina Co.)	25.0 (g)
Lactoferrin hydrolysis product based on the same method as in Test 2	25.0
EGF based on the same method as in Reference 2	0.1
Crystalline cellulose	375.0
Corn starch	575.0

Thus, the lactoferrin is a powdery composition (Claim 4). Applicants have amended the claims to range the composition to 0.1 mg to 50,000 mg readable upon 25 g. The Applicant's intended use for improving lipid metabolism, treatment, and enhancing basal metabolism, are not given any patentable weight because the claims are drawn to a composition comprising lactoferrin. M.P.E.P. § 2111.02 reads, "If the body of a claim fully and intrinsically sets forth all of the limitations of the claimed invention, and the preamble merely states, for example, the purpose or intended use of the invention, rather than any distinct definition of any of the claimed invention's limitations, then the preamble is not considered a limitation and is of no significance to claim construction." Therefore, the invention as claimed is anticipated by the prior art.

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Trümpler, P. W. et al, "Antibacterial prophylaxis with lactoferrin in neutropenic patients," Journal European Journal of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, Issue Volume 8, Number 4 / April, 1989.

Applicant's arguments have been carefully considered but are not deemed persuasive. Applicants traverse the rejection over the preamble not have any patentable weight in the invention, and that it must be made on a case-by-case bases. The claims are to a composition. Applicant is asked to review In re Hack, 245 F.2d 246, 248, 114 USPQ 161, 163 (CCPA 1957). "When the claim recites using an old composition or structure and the "use" is directed to a result or property of that composition or structure, then the claim is anticipated" (MPEP 2100 pp.2113). M.P.E.P.

Art Unit: 1654

§ 2112 reads, "The claiming of a new use, new function or unknown property which is inherently present in the prior art does not necessarily make the claim patentable."

Something that is old does not become patentable upon the discovery of a new property, use, or application. Lactoferrin is known in the art and a new use does not make lactoferrin new.

Therefore, as stated previously, Trümpler, P. W. et al discloses an encapsulated composition having lactoferrin as an ingredient within the ranges claimed, see Example 1 where the composition of 800 mg/day of lactoferrin (claim 1-4 and 7) was encapsulated by acid fast encapsulation for dissolution and release in the small intestine, i.e., duodenal lumen (Claims 4-6). Further the encapsulated lactoferrin was coated with an acid-fast substance that resists 0.1 N HCl, applicable to resisting the acids of the stomach. The Applicants intended use for improving lipid metabolism, treatment, and enhancing basal metabolism, are not given any patentable weight because the claims are drawn to a composition comprising lactoferrin. M.P.E.P. § 2111.02 reads, "If the body of a claim fully and intrinsically sets forth all of the limitations of the claimed invention, and the preamble merely states, for example, the purpose or intended use of the invention, rather than any distinct definition of any of the claimed invention's limitations, then the preamble is not considered a limitation and is of no significance to claim construction." Therefore, the invention as claimed is anticipated by the prior art.

Conclusion

No claims are allowed.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Applicant should specifically point out the support for any amendments made to the disclosure, including the claims (MPEP 714.02 and 2163.06). Due to the procedure outlined in MPEP § 2163.06 for interpreting claims, it is noted that other art may be applicable under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) once the aforementioned issue(s) is/are addressed.

Applicant is requested to provide a list of all copending applications that set forth similar subject matter to the present claims. A copy of such copending claims is requested in response to this Office action.

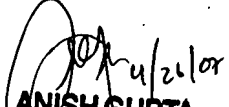
Art Unit: 1654

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas S. Heard whose telephone number is (571) 272-2064. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cecilia Tsang can be reached on (571) 272-0562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TSH


ANISH GUPTA
PRIMARY EXAMINER